

In the Claims:

Please amend the Claims as follows and without prejudice.

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system (40) for projecting light elements in the air, comprising:

- a casing (42) connected to a reservoir (20) containing the light elements and comprising an opening (13) extending along a determined direction;
- a slide (48) capable of sliding in the opening along the determined direction;
- a striker (30) arranged in the opening and fixed with respect to the casing;
- ~~means (46)~~ a spring for sliding the slide in the opening;
- ~~means (56, 93)~~ a shoulder ~~[[for]]~~ blocking the slide with respect to the casing in a stop position;
- a compressed gas cartridge ~~(72) capable of being slid along with the slide and, when the slide is blocked in the stop position, of being projected against the striker to be opened by the striker; and~~
- ~~means (26, 52)~~ a channel for leading the gases released on opening of the cartridge towards the reservoir.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (40) of claim 1, further comprising:

- ~~additional means (68, 70, 93)~~ at least one protrusion extending from the slide and for blocking the slide (48) with respect to the casing (42) in an arming position in which the slide is more distant from the striker (30) than in the stop position; and
- ~~means (86, 88)~~ at least one flexible member for releasing the slide to slide into the opening (13) from the arming position.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (40) of claim 2, in which the ~~means (46) for sliding the slide (48) are~~ spring comprises a helical spring ~~comprising~~

having a first end connected to the casing (12) and a second end connected to the slide, the spring being compressed when the slide is in the arming position and being capable of being released to slide the slide between the arming position and the stop position.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (10) of claim 1, in which the opening (13) ~~comprises a shoulder (93) for blocking the slide (48) in the stop position~~ is in the opening.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (10) of claim 2, in which the slide (48) comprises a body (50) and at least one reinforcing piece (68, 70) connected to the body by a leg (60, 62) ~~extending in a determined direction~~, the opening (13) ~~comprising a shoulder (93) capable of receiving the reinforcing piece to block the slide in the arming position~~, the leg being deformable to release the reinforcing piece from the shoulder.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (10) of claim 2, comprising a socket (16) arranged at one end of the opening (13), the striker (30) being fastened to the socket, the socket comprising at least one protrusion (36, 38) capable of cooperating with the slide (48) to place the slide in the arming position.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (10) of claim 6, in which the opening (13) is cylindrical, the socket (16) being capable of being rotated with respect to

the casing (42) from a first position in which the socket prevents the sliding (48) of the slide to a second position in which the slide is free to slide.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (40) of claim 6, in which the reservoir (20) is fastened to the socket (46), said socket comprising openings (26) for the passing of the gases released on opening of the cartridge (72).

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (40) of claim [[2]] 5, in which the casing (42) comprises at least one flexible tab (86, ~~88~~) that can be manually actuated, capable of deforming the leg (60, ~~62~~) to release the reinforcing piece (68, ~~70~~) from the shoulder (93).

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The projection system (40) of claim 5, comprising means for deforming the leg (60, ~~62~~) comprising a mobile arm (110, ~~112~~) having one end capable of deforming the leg and an electromagnet (122) capable of actuating the arm.